

BULLETIN

of the
MAHONING COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY

Volume XLIV

JUNE, 1974

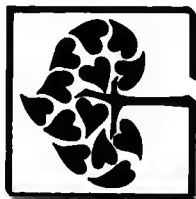
Number 6



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Warnings: Do not use dietary potassium supplements or potassium salts unless hypokalemia develops or dietary potassium intake is markedly impaired.

Enteric-coated potassium salts may cause small bowel stenosis with or without ulceration. Hyperkalemia (>5.4 mEq/L) has been reported in 4% of patients under 60 years, in 12% of patients over 60 years, and in less than 8% of patients overall. Rarely, cases have been associated with cardiac irregularities. Accordingly, **check serum potassium during therapy, particularly in patients with suspected or confirmed renal insufficiency (e.g., elderly or diabetics).** If hyperkalemia develops, substitute a thiazide alone. If spironolactone is used concomitantly with 'Dyazide', check serum potassium frequently—both can cause potassium retention and sometimes hyperkalemia. Two deaths have been reported in patients on such combined therapy (in one, recommended dosage was exceeded; in the other, serum electrolytes were not properly monitored). Observe patients on 'Dyazide' regularly for possible blood dyscrasias, liver damage or other idiosyncratic reactions. Blood dyscrasias have been reported in patients receiving Dyrenium (triamterene, SK&F). Rarely, leukopenia, thrombocytopenia, agranulocytosis, and aplastic anemia have been reported with the thiazides. Watch for signs of impending coma in acutely ill cirrhotics. Thiazides are reported to cross the placental barrier and appear in breast milk. This may result in fetal or neonatal hyperbilirubinemia, thrombocytopenia, altered carbohydrate metabolism and possibly other adverse reactions that have occurred in the adult. When used during pregnancy or in women who might bear children, weigh potential benefits against possible hazards to fetus.

Precautions: Do periodic serum electrolyte and BUN determinations. Do periodic hematologic studies in cirrhotics with splenomegaly. Antihypertensive effects may be enhanced in postsympathectomy patients. The following may occur: hyperuricemia and gout, reversible nitrogen retention, decreasing alkali reserve with possible metabolic acidosis, hyperglycemia and glycosuria (diabetic insulin requirements may be altered), digitalis intoxication (in hypokalemia). Use cautiously in surgical patients. Concomitant use with antihypertensive agents may result in an additive hypotensive effect.

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 Executive Secretary: H. C. REMPES, JR.

Mahoning County Medical Society Meetings — 1974

January	March	May	September	November	December
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From the Desk of the President

CONFIDENTIALITY

"THOSE WHO EXPECT TO REAP THE BLESSINGS OF FREEDOM MUST, LIKE MEN, UNDERGO THE FATIGUE OF SUPPORTING IT."

Thomas Paine (1737-1809)

I believe that the tradition of our country and the tradition of medicine gives the inalienable right of the individual to personal privacy.

Today there are incessant demands for more and more information from government agencies, government health care programs and especially P.S.R.O. The same will be true of the Governor's Task Force on Health Care. Recently the General Counsel of H.E.W. ruled that doctors and hospitals must provide the *entire* medical record requested by government in order to be reimbursed by medicare and medicaid. P.S.R.O. would violate the traditional confidentiality inherent in the doctor-patient relationship.

Medical ethics clearly state that a doctor should not divulge confidential information about one's patient without his consent. The exception would be if failure to release information would subject the person himself or other persons to severe bodily harm or if the law requires a disclosure—such as bullet wounds, drug abuse, Venereal Diseases or areas where legislature has made decisions that the importance overrides the sanctity of the doctor-patient relationship.

The purpose of the medical profession is to render service to humanity with full respect for the dignity of man

There are at least 5 non-professional computerized medical data banks already in existence in the U.S. which provide confidential medical information to hundreds of insurance companies and others who "subscribe" to the service. One bank is said to have information on 11 million Americans including information on sex life, alcohol and drug use. A New York newspaper quoted one writer who stated that there are 40 million Americans with such stored data!

The British have become so alarmed that a proposal has been made to recognize personal information including medical records as legal property subject to full protection of the law.

Senator S. J. Arnoff, R-8, Cincinnati, fears that there is no right of privacy. He accordingly introduced a bill in the Ohio General Assembly requiring a citizen's *consent* to have personal information about himself stored in a computer.

Our federal income tax return is to be confidential and closely guarded. Are you aware of the fact that the State of Ohio and the I.R.S. have an agreement for the exchanging of information?

Computer systems can certainly destroy privacy. Once again the doctor must come forth to preserve and defend the honored ideals of our profession not only for the individual but also for society.

—J. C. Melnick, M.D.
President



BULLETIN

of the Mahoning County Medical Society

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JUNE, 1974



Number 6

The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

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Louis Bloomberg, M.D.

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J. C. Melnick, M.D.

D. H. Levy, M.D.

F. A. Pesa, M.D.

Editorial

MAKE FORTUNES AIDING POOR

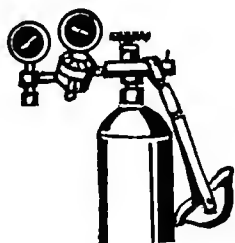
This editorial is based on one written by Victor Riesel several years ago but still very apropos today. He started out by saying, "How odd of those who love the poor—professionally—and steal from them—so deftly! But not so odd as those who ladle out the hundreds of millions of dollars without monitoring them." He goes on to show throughout the country expenditures of anywhere from 10 million to 80 million dollars have gone generally unaccounted. It's so vast, that the general accounting office investigators are completely frustrated. For example, emergency relief payments in one area in New York shot up from 4.5 million dollars in 1964 to 85.5 million dollars in 1968. This is our money that is being thrown about so recklessly. The federal government had set aside some 30 billion dollars to help the poor in every fashion during the 1971 fiscal year. This has been increased still further for the coming fiscal year. It's all so vast with millions gushing from so many agencies that few can grasp the enormity of what's misused as the money pours from the taxpayers to the impoverished. All the programs sound fine on paper. Unfortunately, even though the money gets spent, it is so badly managed that we get very little, if anything, for the money that is supposedly in the training programs, etc. So what has happened to the poor? They're still poor and they're still untrained. What has happened to the money? It's gone.

"Is no one going to help the nation *honestly* help the poor? Does no one care about the hundreds of millions of dollars being mulcted by the poverty providers?"

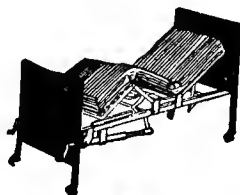
Yet these funds are handled by the very people who are going to take over the practice of medicine and give our citizens better health care. It appears to me that with the unholy mess that they have made in their attempts to alleviate poverty that the same mess will result in their attempts to alleviate our physical ailments. After all, we can only go on past records.

—Louis Bloomberg, M.D.
Editor

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OSMA DELEGATES ELECT PICHETTE, LIEBER



Congratulations are in order to Dr. Lieber (left) and Dr. Pichette, both elected to office at the 1974 OSMA meeting in Cleveland. Opening session is shown below.



Highlight of the OSMA meeting for the Mahoning delegation was the election of Dr. Pichette to the post of Sixth District Councilor. Election was made by the entire House of Delegates at the final session of the House. Dr. Pichette succeeds Dr. Maurice F. Lieber of Canton, who was elected to be president-elect of the Ohio State Medical Association. Dr. Pichette is the first councilor to be elected from Mahoning County since Dr. C. A. Gustafson retired from that position in 1959.

Dr. Robert E. Tschantz, former 6th District Councilor and past president of the Ohio State Medical Association was elected to another term as delegate to the AMA. Dr. James Henry was installed as president of OSMA for the coming year.

Of the 50 resolutions discussed and debated by the delegates, more than one-third had to do with PSRO. As a result, two strong resolutions were adopted—one called for repeal of PSRO and the second advised members not to involve themselves in the implementation of any form of government controlled peer review, but to develop an effective peer review system of their county medical society for all patients.

The same reference committee brought out two resolutions in regard to Medical Advances Institute. The first resolution supported MAI as an effective clinical peer review system and commended those who had worked toward its development. The second resolution limited the use of MAI to those medical organizations acceptable to the involved county medical society.

The Mahoning County resolution calling for a new way of selecting members of reference committees was reported out of reference committee in an acceptable form but it became overramended on the the floor of the house and went down to defeat.

Delegates attending the OSMA meeting in Cleveland, May 12-15, were Dr. John C. Melnick, Dr. J. J. Anderson, Dr. C. Edward Pichette and Dr. Jack Schreiber. Also in attendance were alternate delegates Dr. William Moskalik, Dr. W. E. Sovik and Dr. J. W. Tandatnick, along with the secretary, Dr. G. H. Dietz.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

May 7, 1974

The regular meeting of the council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, May 7, 1974, at the Youngstown Club.

Two letters were read from Rep. Charles Carney in answer to council's request for information on the amount of money spent by the local HMO. The first year federal grant was for \$115,000, of which \$85,864 was spent. Dr. Tandatnick's records show that the Mahoning Trumbull County United Labor Council contributed an additional \$70,000.

A letter was read by Dr. Anderson, chairman of the Medical Executive Committee, YHA, in answer to council's request for the committee's stand on HMOs. Now that all answers are in, they will be mailed to all members of the Medical Society.

A letter was read from the Ohio State Medical Association in answer to council's question on giving patients' records to chiropractors and others. The letter will be mailed to all members of the Medical Society.

A letter was read from the Youngstown Board of Education asking the Medical Society to appoint a representative to serve on its Review Committee. The motion was made, seconded and duly passed that the president appoint someone to the committee.

The executive secretary reported a phone call from Dr. Goldberg asking that the Medical Society make the Governor's Task Force report available to the members. It was suggested that the Medical Society might print a summary.

Dr. Bloomberg, who was master of ceremonies for the Scholarship Dinner reported it to be a great success. He announced a project undertaken to find out what has happened to those students who attended the first dinner in 1967.

Dr. Melnick reported that the dinner dance was most successful and he commended the Woman's Auxiliary for making it so.

Dr. Might, public relations director, reported on one letter to the editor unfavorable to medicine, but 10 recent articles supporting our stand on PSRO and 8 news stories reporting activities of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

Dr. Abdu, insurance chairman, reported on an extensive study of insurance plans. He submitted three major medical plans for consideration: Major Medical of Blue Cross, the AMA plan and the Northwestern National Insurance Co. plan. Following considerable discussion, the motion was made, seconded and duly passed that the insurance committee present a written report of its finding to council so members can review it at leisure. Outlines of the three plans will be sent to all council members.

Dr. Melnick introduced discussion on the matter of ear piercing being done at several places by two department stores. It was noted that the Mahoning County Medical Society took a stand against this when it was first done back in 1972. The motion was made by Dr. Pichette, and properly seconded, that a letter be written to both the County and City Board of Health calling attention to the law which prohibits the practice of medicine by other than a physician, and that we be advised of their action. Letter is to be signed by council.

The Medical Society award at the Science Fair was discussed and it was decided that the school judges should do the judging for the medical award.

Meeting was adjourned.

—Howard Rempes
Executive Secretary

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MCMS AND AUXILIARY MAKE SCIENCE AWARDS



TOP: Mrs. Karl Wieneke, Auxiliary president, with Auxiliary award winners, Jody Saltsman and Karen Bobo.

BOTTOM: Medical Society award winner, Robert Hnat with Medical Society president, Dr. John C. Melnick.

Both the Mahoning County Medical Society and the Woman's Auxiliary took part in the second annual all-city science fair, held this year at Chaney High School, by presenting awards of \$50 savings bonds.

Winning the Medical Society award for the best project related to medicine was Robert Hnat, a Chaney sophomore with a project entitled "Regeneration of Planaria." The award was made by Dr. Melnick.

Co-winners of the Auxiliary award for the best project related to nursing were Karen Bobo and Jody Saltzman, sophomores at East High School. The award was made by Mrs. Wieneke.

This year's science fair was under the supervision of its co-chairmen, Charles Glinatsis, science and health teacher, and Joseph Santangelo, science teacher, both from Volney Rogers Jr. High School.

DELEGATES REPORT AT MAY MEETING

Reports covering all activities of the OSMA House of Delegates meeting were heard at the May 21st meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society. Speaking on various aspects of the meeting were: Dr. Melnick, Dr. Pichette, Dr. Schreiber, Dr. Anderson, Dr. Sovik, Dr. Tandatnick, Dr. Moskalik and Dr. Dietz. Special commendations were given to Dr. Pichete as new councilor for the Sixth District, and to Dr. Schreiber, alternate delegate to the AMA, for his years of leadership at the OSMA meetings.

In other business, the vote on the proposed constitutional amendment was delayed until the September meeting. The amendment would set requirements for election to the position of delegate and alternate delegate to OSMA. Dr. Louis J. Morelli was elected to Intern-resident Membership in the Mahoning County Medical Society.

Speakers were introduced by Dr. C. Conner White, program chairman. Dr. Melnick, president, presided.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS TRAIN ASSISTANTS



The area's two vocational schools, Choffin Career Center and W. C. Smith Vocational High School, maintain two-year courses for girls studying to become medical assistants. The girls are in the 17 and 18 year old age group and are presently available for job placement.

The basic difference in the two schools is that Choffin Career Center is the city vocational school and serves all of Youngstown's high schools. The W. C. Smith School, located in Canfield, is the Mahoning County vocational school and serves the schools in the county system. The county school is finishing their first two-year program. The city school has just completed one year of their course.

Some of the headings gleaned from the catalogues of both schools will indicate the extent of the training programs: Receptionist Duties, Office Housekeeping, Patient's Records, Typing Business Letters, Laboratory Tests, Basic Red Cross first aid course, Sterilization Techniques, Medications, and Terminology.

Physicians interested may contact Mrs. Mary Christy or Mr. Pat Sebastian at Choffin, 743-2187, or call Adeline Timko, R.N. or Mr. William Jordan at Smith Vocational, 533-6871.

* * * * *

Choffin Career Center has now announced an adult course for training medical assistants already on the job. The course will begin in September and will lead to preparing the student for the Certified Medical Assistant test.

Courses offered in the Fall Semester include Administrative Procedures and Clinical Procedures. The Winter Semester includes Laboratory Orientation and Testing for Certified Medical Assistant.

Each course meets for three hours a night, one night a week, for twelve weeks. Cost is \$22 a course plus text-book fees. Those interested may contact Mr. Michael Yohman, Supervisor of Adult Programs, at Choffin Career Center, 743-2187.

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BULLETIN BOARD

Dr. Leonard Green presented a paper, "The Management of Ruptured Lumbar Discs," at the 26th annual meeting of the American Academy of Neurology, held in San Francisco. The paper was discussed by Dr. Joseph Foley, past-president of the American Academy of Neurology.

Dr. Nicholas J. Garritano has been named a diplomate of the American Board of Family Practice. He is a 1959 graduate of Loyola University's Stritch School of Medicine.

Dr. Gopal J. Nigam, has been named a diplomate of the American Board of Pediatrics. He is a native of Kanpur, India, and a graduate of King George's Medical College in Lucknow, India.

Dr. William H. Bunn Jr. has been named president-elect of the Ohio Chapter, American Heart Association. Elected as Northeastern Ohio delegates for 1974-75 are Dr. Robert L. Gilliland, and Dr. Frank C. Tiberio.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank K. Inui are leaving for Talihina, Okla., where he will become the only surgeon at the U.S. Public Health Service Indian Hospital.

Dr. Morris S. Rosenblum was honored by trustees of Congregation Rodef Sholom with a presentation to him of the Gates of Jerusalem Award. He has served many years as a member of the temple board, was congregation president from 1958 to 1961 and was brotherhood president from 1947 to 1949.

Dr. N. C. Domingo has been certified as Diplomate by the American Board of Pediatrics. He received his medical degree from the University of St. Thomas, Philippines, in 1965.

Dr. Leonard P. Caccamo is among 13 persons recently appointed to the Ohio Hospital Advisory Council. The council serves in an advisory capacity to Dr. John W. Cashman, director of Ohio Dept. of Health, on matters concerning the federally funded Hill Burton construction program.

YOU'RE THE BEST!

As a member of the Mahoning County Medical Society you are among the best informed physicians in the entire country on the subject of PSRO and related topics.

Your medical society has brought authorities to speak to you at our regular meetings for the past year and a half on PSRO, HMO, MAI, foundations, medical unions, etc. You now know just about everything there is to know about the current medical-economic situation and should be able to discuss this authoritatively with your friends and with your patients. You're the best!

What, you didn't attend any of the meetings?

Good Grief!

SCHOLARSHIP FOR ALCOHOL STUDIES

The American Medical Society on Alcoholism, Inc. announces a Scholarship for Alcohol Studies for the physicians' institute, Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies, New Brunswick, New Jersey, from June 23 to July 12. This will include tuition, room and board, and is open to medical students as well as physicians.

Applications and additional information may be obtained by contacting Lotta Veasey, Educational Consultant, Community Alcoholism Center, 506 Realty Bldg., Youngstown.

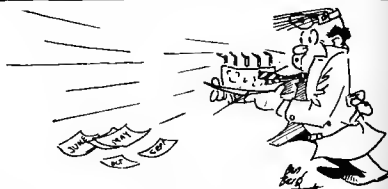
FOUNDATION SEEKS LOAN APPLICANTS

The Mahoning County Medical Society Foundation has announced a July 1 deadline for the filing of applications by medical students for the foundation's 1974 scholarship loans.

Applicants must be residents of Mahoning or Trumbull counties and must have completed one year of medical school. Application forms are available at the medical society office and will be mailed upon request.

Each year the Foundation gives one or two \$500 loans. Eleven students have received aid since the formation of the Foundation in 1967. Members of the Foundation appointing committee are: Dr. John C. Melnick, president, Dr. F. L. Schellhase, Dr. J. W. Tandatnick, Dr. John J. McDonough, Dr. S. F. Gaylord and Dr. M. C. Raupple.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



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June 18

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June 19

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J. A. Patrick
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M. C. Raupple
J. K. Altier
J. V. Chaves

June 27

F. A. Pesa

June 28

W. S. Curtis
R. A. Hall
Wm. Katz

June 30

A. V. Eanez

July 2

E. Weltman
I. Mendel

July 4

F. S. Coombs

July 5

F. A. Miller

July 6

M. M. Kendall
M. L. Fok
G. A. Butcher

July 9

G. L. Altman
S. A. Myers

July 11

L. M. Pass

July 13

D. W. Metcalf
G. Boulis

HEALTH BOARD APPOINTMENT

Warren Harrell Jr., a general clerk at the Main post office, has been named by Mayor Jack C. Hunter as the 1974 appointment to a five-year term on the Youngstown Board of Health. The Board now consists of Dr. Sam D. Goldberg, Mrs. Mary Ellen Patton, R.N., Mrs. Doris Burdman-Rinkov, Lawrence W. Weller Jr. and Harrell, all Hunter appointees. By law, the Mayor is the chairman of the Board. The Mayor also continues as Acting Health Commissioner until a replacement can be found for Dr. Greisinger.

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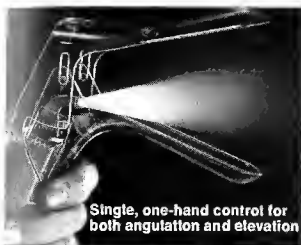
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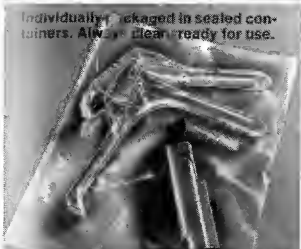
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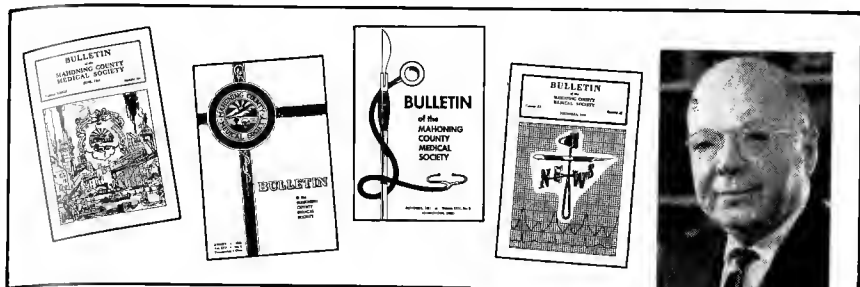
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From the Bulletin

FORTY YEARS AGO — JUNE 1934

Serving on the interne staff at St. Elizabeth's Hospital were Paul Mahar, S. R. Cafaro and H. B. Thomas. New internes appointed were Wm. E. Maine, Lewis Shensa, Everett Chalker, J. J. Walsilko and J. K. Herald.

At the Youngstown Hospital C. A. McReynolds, A. R. Cukerbaum, S. A. Myers and C. W. Sears were finishing their year. C. A. Gustafson and Fred Coombs were staying as residents.

J. A. Altdoerffer became a member of the Society.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — 1944

Youngstown doctors were scattered all over the world. Herbert Hutt, John Rogers and Clyde Walter were heard from, somewhere overseas. John E. L. Keyes was promoted to Lt. Colonel. Paul Kaufman was in Corsica, Gordon Nelson in Italy. Peter Boyle and J. L. Scarnecchia were in England. W. D. McElroy was promoted to Lt. Colonel and was recovering from a broken arm.

Quinine and quinidine were scarce. To get quinidine the doctor had to write "Cardiac Case" on the prescription and order not more than 150 grains.

TWENTY YEARS AGO — JUNE 1954

By mid-April there were 424 cases of poliomyelitis reported in the U.S.A.

The program that month was presented by hospital residents: Ben Berg and James Quinn from Youngstown Hospital; Robert Hancock and Rocco Vernino from St. Elizabeth's.

Bulletin advertising invited the members to prescribe Fello-Sed for nervousness, Amphetase for depression, Cebefortis for vitamin deficiency, Paveril Phosphate and Lipocaps for goodness knows what.

TEN YEARS AGO — JUNE 1964

Robert Wiltsie, chairman of public relations reported on the meeting of the Child Welfare Conference. Attending were H. Bryan Hutt, F. Kravec, Sam Goldberg, Sidney Franklin and Nellie Grant of the Visiting Nurse Association. They recommended medical care, immunizations and preschool examinations of children of indigent families.

Our own Dena Evans was inaugurated President of the Auxiliary to the A.M.A. at the Convention in San Francisco.

John Rogers was made President of the Ohio State Heart Association and Hugh Bennett was elected to the Board of Trustees.

There were seven cases of T.B. reported by the Health Department, no Poliomyelitis. Ten cases of Gonorrhea were reported, a small fraction of the actual situation.

No pharmacist was held up and robbed that month.

—J. L. F.

ANOTHER HISTORIC FIRST



(L to R) Dr. John C. Melnick (medical society), Dr. Terrence J. Martzial (dental society), Atty. Arseny Melnick (bar association), and Dr. James A. Mazzi (osteopathic association).

For those interested in following the history of medicine in Youngstown, the date of March 19, 1974 marks the first time that four professional organizations met in a combined meeting. Meeting with the Mahoning County Medical Society were the 10th District Academy of Medicine of the Ohio Osteopathic Association, the Corydon Palmer Dental Society and the Mahoning County Bar Association.

By coincidence, the presidents of the four organizations, pictured above, all have names beginning with the letter "M".

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—J. L. F.

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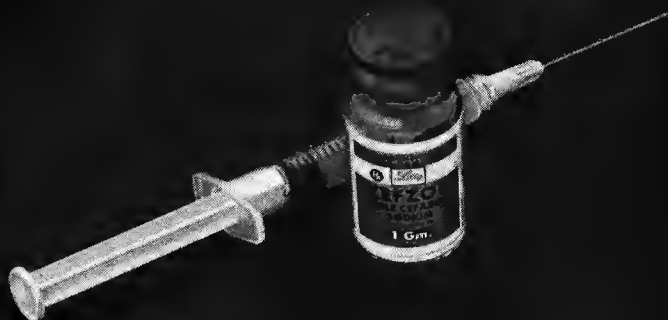
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